

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 84-97 and 99-122 are now present in this application. Claims 84, 103, 105, 109, 112, 114, 115, 119, 120 and 121 are independent. By this Amendment, claims 109, 111, 116, 119 and 120-122 are amended. No new matter is involved.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Entry of Amendments

Applicants respectfully submit that it is proper to enter the amendments to the claims to overcome the formal rejections of claims 109-111, 116 and 119-122 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, and ensure that the metes and bounds of those claims are clear and definite, thereby expediting prosecution of this Application to allowance.

Telephone Interviews

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the courtesies extended by Examiner Kelly J. Bekker, to Mr. Robert J. Webster, their undersigned representative, during a number of telephone interviews conducted during September and October of 2009 in an attempt to draft claims which overcome the remaining outstanding rejections under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, after the Board of Appeals and Interferences Decision in this Application.

Agreement was reached during the telephone interview held on October 15, 2009 of amendments to claims 109, 111, 116 and 119-122 which overcome the final rejection of claims 109-111, 116 and 119-122. Those amendments appear above.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

Claims 116 and 122 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

This rejection was affirmed by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. This affirmed rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments to claims 116 and 122 make claims 116 and 122 fully comply with the requirements of 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as agreed upon in the aforementioned October 14, 2009 telephone interview.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 116 and 122 are respectfully requested.

Claims 109-111 and 119-122 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. This rejection, which was affirmed by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments to claims 109, 111 and 119-122 make those amended claims fully comply with the provisions of 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as agreed upon in the aforementioned October 14, 2009 telephone interview.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 109-111 and 119-122 are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 46,472, at (703) 205-8076, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: OCT 16 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By Robert J. Webster
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